

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 08080 161458Z

44

ACTION PM-07

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R 160937Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6630

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, MARR, US, RP

SUBJ: SEISMIC RESEARCH OBSERVATORIES PROGRAM

REF: A) STATE 94467; B) STATE 125536

BEGIN SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED SRO PROGRAM WITH WEATHER BUREAU AND MANILA OBSERVATORY BOTH OF WHICH OPERATE STATIONS UNDER WWNSS. BOTH FAVORABLE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF SRO IN PHILIPPINES, WOULD BE WILLING TO OPERATE STATION AND WILLING TO DEFER TO NOAA CHOICE. MANILA OBSERVATORY SEEMS LOGICAL CHOICE. EMBASSY FORESEES NO GOP OBJECTION TO PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

1. THERE ARE THREE SEISMIC NETWORKS OPERATING IN PHILIPPINES. IN ADDITION TO WEATHER BUREAU AND MANILA OBSERVATORY THE VOLCANOLOGY COMMISSION ALSO HAS EIGHT SHORT-PERIOD SEISMOGRAPHS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. WEATHER BUREAU HAS SIX STATIONS INCLUDING WWNSS STATION AT MANILA. ATENEO DE MANILA (OF WHICH MANILA OBSERVATORY A PART) HAS THREE STATIONS INCLUDING WWNSS STATIONS AT DAVAO AND BAGUIO. TO NOW THERE HAS BEEN NO COORDINATION OF THREE SYSTEMS. IN ADDITION, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HAS PROJECT TO START OCTOBER, 1973 TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND PHILIPPINE SEISMOLOGICAL FACILITIES AS PART OF REGIONAL PROGRAM.

2. MANILA OBSERVATORY SEEMS LOGICAL CHOICE FOR SRO

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SINCE IT HAS DESIRABLE SITE AT BAGUIO AND ALREADY

CONDUCTS SEVERAL USG PROGRAMS FOR WHICH IT USES OFFICIAL
USG MAIL CHANNELS. JAMES HENNESSEY, S.J., IN JULY 7
LETTER TO EMBASSY EXPRESSED MANILA OBSERVATORY'S DESIRE
TO PARTICIPATE IN SRO PROGRAM.

3. WEATHER BUREAU ALSO WOULD WELCOME INCLUSION IN
PROGRAM BUT DOES NOT HAVE SAME QUALITY FACILITY AT
BAGUIO. ADMINISTRATOR KINTANAR TOLD EMBOFF THAT BUREAU
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PROJECT IN LINE WITH ITS PROGRAM
TO UPGRADE SEISMOLOGICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL FACILITIES IN
PHILIPPINES. KINTANAR SAID BUREAU WILLING TO DEFER TO
MANILA OBSERVATORY IF NOAA WOULD PREFER USING OBSERVATORY'S
BAGUIO SITE BUT HOPED THAT WEATHER BUREAU WOULD BE ABLE
TO SHARE IN TECHNOLOGY AND DATA OFFERED BY SRO PROGRAM.
KINTANAR DID NOT FORESEE ANY GOVERNMENT OBJECTION TO
MANILA OBSERVATORY OPERATING PROGRAM.
HAMILTON

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